

**ABSTRACT**

A majority of the IP packets sent from an IP network over a wireless network to a mobile station which is tethered to an electronic device, such as a laptop computer, are destined for applications running on the electronic device. The embodiments are for snooping and filtering incoming IP packets to delineate only those packets destined for mobile station applications, which greatly improves the processing efficiency of the mobile station. In particular, the CID fields of TCP/IP packets utilizing Van Jacobson compression techniques are snooped and filtered.